

**BARTHOLOMEW CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL CORPORATION
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, MONDAY, January 10, 2022 MINUTES**

The regular meeting of the Board of School Trustees of the Bartholomew Consolidated School Corporation was held at the Administration Building, 1200 Central Ave., Columbus, Indiana on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m., pursuant to notice having been duly given to the media and to all members of the Board in accordance with the rules of the Board.

On call of the roll, the members of the Board were shown to be present or absent as follows:

Present: Dr. Jill Shedd, President
 Ms. Nikki Wheeldon, Vice President
 Mr. Rich Stenner, Secretary
 Ms. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer, Member
 Mr. Pat Bryant, Member
 Dr. Julie Bilz, Member

Absent: Mr. Todd Grimes, Member

Administration: Dr. Jim Roberts, Superintendent
 Mr. Chad Phillips, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services
 Dr. Gina Pleak, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources
 Dr. Laura Hack, Director of Elementary Education
 Mr. William Jensen, Director of Secondary Education
 Dr. Brett Boezeman, Director of Operations
 Mr. Charles Edwards, Director of Title Services
 Dr. George Van Horn, Director of Special Education

Attorney: Mr. Chris Monroe, School Attorney

REGULAR SESSION

Dr. Bilz provided Reflections.

The business meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Dr. Roberts, Superintendent called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

HOW

1) Election of Officers for January 2022 through December 2022:

Board of School Trustees: President, Vice President, Secretary

Superintendent, Dr. Roberts asked that a motion be made for a slate of officers for January 2022 to December 2022.

Dr. Bilz made a motion for the following slate of officers:

Dr. Shedd as President, Ms. Wheeldon as Vice President, and Mr. Stenner as Secretary.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was passed unanimously.

The officers assumed their duties.

WHO/WHY

Update: COVID-19 Plan of Action for 2021-2022 (Dr. Roberts)

Dr. Roberts reviewed data, both from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Indiana Department of Health (IDOH), and shared the update of the COVID-19 Task Force numbers. He explained the color-coded COVID-19 maps and highlighted where Bartholomew County stands in regards to positive test cases, COVID-19 hospitalizations, and test turnaround time.

He shared the positive cases for the 2021-2022 school year, noting there were 514 positive test cases for the 1st quarter, and 446 positive test cases for the 2nd quarter. The peak week for positive cases for the first semester was the week of November 27 through the December 3. He reported the COVID-19 positive case numbers for the most recent week remain high and indicated even with the increase in numbers more students remain in school due to the recent quarantine guideline revision.

Dr. Roberts shared the most recent IDOH information for isolation/quarantine guidance. He noted the close contact change for symptom-free individuals within a masked environment has allowed potentially more students and staff to remain in school buildings, as has the reduction for isolation/quarantines from ten days to five.

The following information was given in response to questions from the board:

It is difficult to compare current data to the positive case numbers a year ago due to the school corporation being in a hybrid model at this time last year.

Maintaining the 3 feet quarantine guideline is a key factor as to whether a student has to go home or can remain in school. The move to a 5-day quarantine guideline from the 10-day helps students return to the classroom much sooner.

Upon going into fall break the cases contracted at school was around 5% and to date that percentage has not changed significantly.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

1. Mr. Eric Grow, Columbus, IN

Mr. Grow asked for continuous communication efforts between the school board members and their constituents. He asked the school board to respond to the following: 1. Provide an update on the library books that were referenced at the November 15, 2021 school board meeting. 2. If proposed would board members support or oppose student vaccines?

2. Mr. Mike Zieles, Columbus, IN

Mr. Zieles shared his comments in regards to masks, vaccines, and data collection for the COVID-19 virus. He asked that people have time to decide for themselves before mandates are put into place.

HOW

2) Reorganization of Business Services January 2022 to December 2022: (Mr. Phillips)

- a. Appoint Corporation Treasurer - Mr. Chad Phillips
- b. Appoint Corporation Deputy Treasurer - Ms. Paula Betros
- c. Authorization for Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer to Invest School Corporation Funds
- d. Approval of School Treasurer Bonds

Dr. Shedd requested the approval of the reorganization of Business Services as presented by Mr. Phillips.

A motion was made by Mr. Bryant to approve the reorganization of Business Services as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

3) Establish Board Remuneration, Board Required Notices and Board Meeting Dates:

- a. Establish Board Remuneration as Provided by Law
- b. Designation of Newspapers or Qualified Publications in which to Publish Required Notices-*The Republic*
- c. Board Meeting Dates and Locations July 2022 to July 2023

A motion was made by Dr. Bilz to approve the board remuneration, required notices, and board meeting dates as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bryant.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

4) Board Appointments for January 2022 to December 2022:

- a. BCSC Health Trust – Dr. Julie Bilz
- b. Districting & Facilities Committee – Mr. Rich Stenner
- c. Diversity Leadership Council – Dr. Julie Bilz
- d. Business Advisory – Dr. Jill Shedd

A motion was made by Mr. Stenner to approve the board appointments as presented and Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

5) Approval of Board Members Serving as Liaison with District and Community Advisory Boards and Committees for January 2022 to December 2022:

- a. High Ability Broad-Based Committee – Mr. Todd Grimes
- b. Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation – Mr. Todd Grimes
- c. Corporation Continuous Improvement Council – Dr. Jill Shedd
- d. Education Hall of Fame Committee – Ms. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer
- e. Indiana School Board Association – Dr. Jill Shedd
- f. IUPUC Advisory Board – Dr. Julie Bilz
- g. Special Education Parent Advisory Council – Ms. Kathy Dayhoff-Dwyer
- h. Support Staff Roundtable – Mr. Pat Bryant
- i. Career & Technical Education Regional Advisory Committee – Ms. Nikki Wheeldon
- j. Council for Youth Development – Mr. Rich Stenner
- k. District Wellness Committee – Mr. Pat Bryant
- l. Bartholomew County Redevelopment Commission – Ms. Nikki Wheeldon
- m. City of Columbus Redevelopment Commission – Ms. Nikki Wheeldon
- n. Legislative Liaison – Dr. Jill Shedd

A motion was made by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer to approve board members serving as liaisons with district and community advisory boards and committees as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bilz.

Upon a call for the vote, Items 5) a-n were unanimously approved.

6) Recommendations for Public Disclosures of Conflict of Interest: (Mr. Monroe)

Mr. Monroe submitted conflict of interest disclosures for Dr. Bilz, Mr. Jensen, Dr. Hack, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Boezeman, Mr. Phillips, and Dr. Van Horn. The disclosure for Dr. Bilz was due to her employment and the others have spouses and/or family members that work for the corporation. The forms will be filed as part of the official minutes of the School Board. The statements will also be filed with the Bartholomew County Court and the Indiana State Board of Accounts.

Mr. Bryant made a motion to accept the conflict of interest disclosures and the motion was seconded by Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

7) Requests for Approval:

Dr. Roberts reviewed the following items for the Board.

- a. Minutes of the Regular School Board Meeting of December 13, 2021
- b. Supplemental Contracts (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- c. Field Trips/Professional Leaves (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- d. School Fundraisers (Dr. Hack/Mr. Jensen)
- e. Claims and Payroll (Mr. Phillips)
- f. Appointment of Dr. Roy Goode as School Physician (Dr. Roberts)
- g. Appointment of Mr. Chris Monroe as Interim School Attorney (Dr. Roberts)
- h. Information Services Center Roofing Replacement Contract (Dr. Boezeman)

Dr. Roberts shared additional information on the reviewed items and requested approval.

Ms. Wheeldon made a motion to approve the reviewed items and Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer seconded the motion.

Upon a call for the vote, Items 7) a-h were unanimously approved.

8) Request for Approval of Human Resources Recommendations (Dr. Pleak)

Dr. Pleak requested approval of the Human Resources Recommendations as presented.

Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer made a motion to approve the Human Resources Recommendations and the motion was seconded by Dr. Bilz.

Upon a call for the vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

WHAT

9) NEOLA Policy Revision Recommendations:

- First Reading Volume 34, No.1.

Dr. Roberts reviewed the recommendations for policy revisions.

10) Board Commendations:

Ms. Wheeldon shared commendations to the student winners of the Columbus Area Bicentennial “Bartholomew County: Your Vision, Our Future” Essay Contest.

Mr. Stenner gave commendations to Dr. Pleak and the Human Resources Department staff for their continuous efforts in finding ways to fill the current substitute teacher openings. He shared the recent successes of the following teams and individuals: CNHS Bowling Team and their recent advancement to the regional level; CEHS Wrestling Team and their coach Chris Cooper for winning the First Class 3A Dual Class Tournament; and recent Lilly Endowment Scholarship recipients, CNHS

seniors Megan Allman and Ashley Lara. Commendations were also given to CEHS senior girls basketball player, Koryn Greiwe for becoming the new all-time leading scorer for Columbus East High School. Koryn broke the 42-year-old record previously held by 1980 CEHS graduate, Maria Stack. Mr. Stenner also gave commendations to school board member, Mr. Todd Grimes, and BCSC 2020 Teacher of the Year, Ms. Mindy Summers for being selected to hold the American flag during the National Anthem of the National College Football Championship Game.

Dr. Shedd thanked the school attorney, Mr. Monroe for his legal counsel and guidance, and for remaining available until a new attorney is identified.

11) School Board Member Reports:

Mr. Stenner reported that the Council for Youth Development, Executive Director, Heather Carson announced a survey that will be distributed to students. This survey is aimed to help with setting a new direction for future development opportunities.

Mr. Stenner shared an update on the Bartholomew Consolidated School Foundation (BCSF). He noted two upcoming fundraisers. Saturday, February 12 is the 3rd annual “Share the Love” trivia night, and Sunday, March 6 is when the Harlem Wizards will return to Columbus to participate in a fundraiser for BCSF.

12) Cabinet Reports:

Extra-Curricular Fund Report (Mr. Phillips)

Mr. Phillips shared the Extra-Curricular Account Report and made a comparison from the fall of 2019. He noted the receipts are down about 40% and the expenditures are down about 35% from that time. The extra-curricular accounts are still not seeing an increase in the amount of activity from fundraisers and student activities due to COVID-19.

Board of Finance Report (Mr. Phillips)

Mr. Phillips noted the officers for the Board of Finance would be the same as the school board officers for 2022. He shared that per Policy 6144 the school corporation uses three investments tools. The investment instruments are Treasury Bills or Notes, Bank CDs, and Money Market Sweep Accounts. He noted that in 2021 the school corporation did not invest in CDs or treasuries due to the interest rates being lower than the 0.15% sweep account that is available from First Financial Bank. The amount of interest earned was the lowest it had been since 2014.

Mr. Phillips noted the Board of Finance also requires an additional report from the Distressed Unit Appeals Board (DUAB). This required report became mandatory in 2019 due to two specific situations within the State of Indiana. The fiscal indicators were created to identify distressed school corporations. Mr. Phillips shared that the school corporation does not have any concerns in this area. If BCSC would ever be identified as a distressed school corporation a private notification would be given before a public announcement would be made.

BOARD INPUT/REVIEW

Mr. Stenner echoed Dr. Shedd’s comments and words about Mr. Monroe. He thanked Mr. Monroe for his service to the school corporation.

Ms. Dayhoff-Dwyer congratulated the new school board officers and thanked Mr. Monroe for his service to the school corporation.

Ms. Wheeldon thanked Mr. Grow for his public comments. She shared how her personal views and how she weighs in on school board decisions may be different than decisions made for her family household. She thanked those who offered public comments and shared that she welcomed further discussion on these

topics. She acknowledged and shared her appreciation that BCSC has remained in school, noting there have been over 3500 school districts across the nation that have had to go to virtual learning.

Dr. Shedd thanked Dr. Bilz and Mr. Bryant for serving as school board officers for the last year and noted she looks forward to working with the newly elected school board officers, Mr. Stenner and Ms. Wheeldon. She addressed Mr. Grow’s question in regards to the library books he referenced. She noted that there is a policy to have books removed and that process can be initiated by anyone in the community.

Dr. Shedd concluded by stating that her personal views are not why she was elected to the school board. She shared she has assumed the responsibility to take care of the health and safety of over 11,000 students and each staff member of the school corporation. Dr. Shedd noted she would continue to seek guidance federally, state, and locally to make the best decisions for the health, safety, and learning of all students in the school corporation.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next regular School Board Meeting will be on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Administration Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

_____ President

_____ Secretary